Amusements.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC-8:10-Way Down East. AMERICAN THEATRE-8:15-The Beggar Student. AMERICAN THEATRE—S.15—The Beggar Student.
BLOU—S:15—Sister Mary.
BROADWAY THEATRE—S—Ben-Hur.
CARNEGIE HALL—2—The Messiah.
CASINO—S:15—The Singing Girl.
CRITERION THEATRE—S.20—Barbara Frietchie.
CRITERION THEATRE—S.20—Barbara Frietchie.
CALLY'S THEATRE—S—The Manœuvres of Jane.
DALY'S THEATRE—S—The Manœuvres of Jane.
COncert and Cinematograph.
DEMPIRE—THEATRE—S—S—D—My Lady's Lord.
FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE—S:15—Three Little Lambs.
FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE—S:15—Three Little Lambs.
FOURTWENTH STREET THEATRE—S—The Village

Postmaster.

GARDEN THEATRE 8.30 The First Violin.

GARRICK THEATRE 8 Sheriock Holmes.

GRAND OFERS HOUSE 8 Shore Acres.

HAMMERSTEIN'S VICTORIA 8.20 Rogers Brothers to

Wall Second

Wall Steed HOUSE S Zaza. HARLEM OPERA HOUSE S 235 Primrose & Dook-HERALD SQUARE THEATRE S 15 Primrose & Dook-HERALD SQUARE THEATRE SAS PR stader's Minetels, IRVING PLACE THEATRE 8 Muller, REITH'S Continues Design

KNICKERBOCKER THEATRE-5:20 The Cowboy and

Wheels.

METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE—S—Faust.

MURRAY HILL THEATRE—2. S—Men and Women.

NEW YORK THEATRE—8.15—Man in the Moon. Jr.

PASTOR'S—Continuous Performance.

ST. NICHOLIAS SKATING RINK—8.15—Hockey Matches.

WALLACK'S—8.15—The Ameer.

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New-York Daily Tribune.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1899.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN. — Notwithstanding denials from Berlin, European diplomatists believe there is a secret understanding regarding the division of Portuguese territory in Africa between Germany and England; the Boers on Wednesday carried on a brisk bombaydment of General Methuen's rossition on Modder River; seven more deaths on a brisk bombardment of General Architers
position on Modder River; seven more deaths
from typhoid fever are reported in Ladysmith;
nine Boers were killed in a fight near Chieveley.

Harry Escombe, ex-Premier of Natal, died
suddenly at Durban.

Names of several
prominent Cubans are mentioned as probable
members of General Wood's Cabinet, which will
has installed after the new year.

A fire in members of General Wood's Cabinet, which will be installed after the new year. — A fire in the Krupp gun works at Essen, Germany, did \$70,000 damage. — A Brazilian warship has been ordered to Amapa, which is on territory in dispute between Brazil and France; trouble is expected at that point. — Pleas by the councel for the defendants were heard by the Senate High Court in Paris in the conspiracy cases. — A parade of six thousand strikers was held in St. Etienne, France.

held in St. Etlenne, France.

DOMESTIC.—The bodies of the Maine dead were buried in Arlington National Cemetery in the presence of President McKinley, members of the Cabinet and many Army and Navy officers.— Assistant Secretary Meiklejohn made a statement defining the War Department's policy in opening ports in the Philippines.—

The Interstate Commerce Commission laid the Interstate Commerce recent freight classifications. The Interstate Commerce Commission laid the testimony taken at the recent freight classification hearing before Attorney General Griggs, but without making any recommendation as to legal proceedings against the railroads.

The scientific societies met for their second day's session at New-Haven, and listened to papers on various topics of interest.

Some alarm is felt in San Francisco over the fact that the bubonic plague has appeared in Honolulu.

Ex-Secretary Fairchild and James B. Dill Ex-Secretary Fairchild and James B. Dill were the principal speakers at the convention of the American Economic Association at Ithaca.

CITY.—Stocks were strong and active. In the Molineux trial H. S. D. Adams were among the witnesses; Recorder Goff allowed testimony regarding the Barnet case, but would not permit the use of Barnet's name.

— The December Grand Jury handed in a presentment regarding the investigation of In a presentment regarding the investigation of the attacks on Brooklyn Rapid Transit, urging that it go over to the January Grand Jury.

A statement showing the condition of Harper & Brothers was issued by the Reorganization Committee, of which Alexander E. Orr is chairman. — Governor Roosevelt had a conference in this city with Senator Platt and B. B. Odell, Jr. — Edwin Gould and General Thomas took charge of the Produce Explance Trust Company. change Trust Company.

THE WEATHER.—Forecast for to-day: Fair

cold The temperature vesterday: Highest, 29 degrees; lowest, 24; average, 26%.

WHERE WE STAND.

This is the season of stocktaking, and the American people may well take count with some care of the conditions which go to determine their future. The highest degree of prosperity ever attained was suddenly arrested in 1892 by votes for a change of National policy, and followed within a few months by the worst pros tration for half a century. It cannot be denied that another such reversal of the Nation's policy by the election of Bryan or any other free trader and free silverite, if accompanied by a change in both houses of Congress, might produce another disaster. Hence one of the foremost factors upon which future safety depends is the presence of a Republican majority in the Senate which, humanly speaking, cannot be changed until March, 1903, but there is scarcely a possibility that a Democratic President can be elected. This is the more important now be cause continuity of National policy in foreign affairs may go far to determine whether peace with foreign Powers shall be maintained for five years to come. The support which the people have given to President McKinley would be seriously weighed by any foreign Power if contemplating the possibility of a rupture with the United States.

Climatic ill fortune is liable in any year lessen the yield of important crops. But the area of this country is now so extensive, and its largely productive regions are so widely separated, that a disaster affecting the larger part of either great crop is hardly to be not be feared, and a shortage of supply only restricting the surplus available for other countries would bring with it some compensation in higher prices for all the products sold. Thus an advance of nearly two cents in price of cotton this year, if continued by a deficiency of supply, would go far to make good the loss in

the value of that crop. It is believed that the gold standard bill will be passed, but though it should fail the monetary situation would be one of exceptional safety. The discovery of Secretary Gage that he is able to deposit with the banks for commercial use any surplus derived from internal revenue receipts puts it entirely within his power to prevent any monetary trouble arising from excessive accumulation of money in the Treasury, and the certain increase of exports to the lately Spanish islands, with the remarkable growth of foreign demand for manufactured products, removes all ground for apprehension that an adverse balance of foreign trade will cause trouble. Even a serious fear of such trouble would suffice so far to depress prices as to cause larger exports, and at the same time would tend to diminish imports of goods from other countries. Respecting commercial failures, too, recent returns show so low an average of liabilities that a general panic seems im-

several years for that average to rise from the minimum of exceptional safety to the danger point. The condition of the industries excites appre hension only on the theory that some things are "too good to last." It may be admitted that prices have reached the maximum, and that

possible, and experience teaches that it takes

the laws of trade seem to put bounds to that possibility. The purchasing power of the people is determined by wages. These are at the highest average ever known, with no symptom whatever of recoil, but much evidence that in important lines they may further advance. With wages and purchasing power continued, any reaction in prices is sure to stimulate a somewhat larger consumption of products, thus retarding the approach of industrial depression, Foreign events might indeed cut off much of the demand for American products, though scarcely anything appears more unlikely, but the millions who live by wages are measurably certain not to diminish greatly their demands until wages have been reduced. As all know, that process is always slow unless forcibly accelerated by a general panic, of which at present the material seems to be wanting.

It is said with truth that the marketing of new securities to a vast amount during the last year has provided an element of danger. In the speculative markets the truth of that statement has been shown, but at the same time it has been seen that not a single factory or mill or mine among the thousands owned or controlled by various companies has been caused to close through the remarkable depression in their new stocks. It is not safe to say, as some do, that prostration of these stocks cannot cause trouble anywhere except in the security market. But there is obviously little probability of any considerable depression of industries from that source so long as the demand for products continues to invite profitable operation of works.

INDIFFERENT.

The publication of his report on the Mazet investigation involves questions of personal courtesy and professional etiquette which may be of some concern to Mr. Moss, and naturally enough causes the committee to consider, not without irritation of feeling, what sort of a report it had better make on its own account to the Legislature. We have no disposition to intrude, but the committee may as well understand that the public takes very little interest in the matter, and really doesn't care what decision it reaches. A public investigation which is copiously reported makes from day to day whatever impression it deserves to make, and the formal presentation of a laborious summary of the evidence to the person or body instructed to receive it produces only a slight effect on public sentiment.

Such an official report is sometimes servicesble as a basis of legislation; but in this instance that element of value is lacking, for it is conceded that the task of generally amending the charter must be left to a special commission appointed by the Governor, while it is far from certain that any change will be accomplished at the coming session. Evidently, therefore, the community is not going to get excited, whether the committee resolves to snub Mr. Moss and undertake the superfluous labor of doing over again what he has already done well enough for all practical purposes, or to make the best of a rather annoying situation and adopt his report in substance as its own, with such alterations or additional suggestions as its political mentor dictates. In either case the citizens of New-York, both good and bad, will decline to give serious attention to the document ultimately to be laid before the Legislature. having already a pretty clear understanding both of what the investigation has shown and what it was not permitted to show.

THE LAW AGAINST RAIDING.

Talk about a new Fenian raid into Canada continues. There are tales of a hundred thousand men being secretly under arms, with whole trainloads of munitions of war hidden near the a chance to invest its money in opening a new border, ready for use in an invasion of the avenue of travel to Manhattan from Brooklyn An border, ready for use in an invasion of the avenue of that of the when the Mayor An's Dominion. We fancy these are mostly idle vaporings and barroom dreams, or else mere is ready to invest \$30,000,000 of the city's bogie tales, put forward to frighten Canada out | money for just that purpose, and the Controller | When of sending any more troops to aid the Empire | favors similar enterprises of a more economical in South Africa. Indeed, the latter is admitted and generally beneficial character, it would to be the case by at least one man who ought seem as if all might agree to let a railroad give to have authoritative knowledge of the facts. them for nothing what the city is ready so "It is merely a bluff to keep the Canadians at home," is his estimate of it. We shall not ques-

He adds, however, the peculiar statement that such a raid would be "against the rules of international law." Yes, we suppose so. But what is much more to the purpose is that it would be against the law of the United States of America. That is the concrete fact with which any such raiders would have to deal. It will not be amiss to recall the Jameson raid in South Africa. It was denounced by some who have been most loudly talking of raiding Canada as a most infamous thing, and the British Government was denounced as particeps criminis for not hanging or shooting every man concerned in it. Very well. Every such word would be equally applicable to a Fenian raid into Canada, and the stern judgment which was demanded for "Dr. Jim" and his followers would be at least equally fitting for all who should take part in it.

There will, however, we believe, be no occasion for any such action. The bluffing may continue. But it will not get beyond the status of bluffing. And we greatly doubt if it will have any perceptible effect upon the Dominion's support of the Empire. Canada is assured that she needs not to guard her borders against such a raid. The United States will attend to that.

THE NEW PANAMA.

Interest in the Isthmian Canal project is revived by the announcement that the somewhat Ill omened, not to say malodorous, Panama enterprise is to be "Americanized." A company reckoned a possibility. Famine, in short, need has been incorporated in New-Jersey for the purpose of acquiring the rights, titles, property, etc., of the present French company, and of then pushing the work to completion, with American capital and under American auspices and control. Various well known capitalists are mentioned in connection with the scheme, and confidence is expressed that success in the completion of the canal is now assured and near at

It may be so. The first Panama company nearly to wreck the French Republic, which was its sponsor, and to make the name of Panama a synonyme of corruption and fraud. The present concern, the New Panama Canal Company, was founded upon the rulns of the former. It has not become notorious for dishonesty, and we may assume that it has been ner, for the purpose it has in view. There has been some difference of opinion as to what that purpose is. Some hold that it is to complete the canal. Others suspect that it is to rehabilitate the enterprise sufficiently to enable the company to "unload" upon some one else. To this latter end, it is said, it has been the practice to make a great showing of excavation by digging out the soft spots, and promptly moving on whenever rock is struck. This theory and these statements may do the company great injustice. Whether they do or not will doubtless be ascertained by this American corporation, either before or after it purchases the unfinished ditch. It will be gratifying to know that they were un-

founded, and that the third Panama company is not investing its capital, so to speak, in a gold brick of brazen interior. some reaction in these, with decrease in the | The American public probably cares little

demand for products, may soon appear. Yet about the conflicting claims of rival promoters. does not regard a Nicaragua Canal as essential to the perpetuity of the Republic. But it does want a canal at the earliest possible moment. It wants it on the shortest and best route. And it wants it, first, last and all the time, under United States control, Those are entirely reasonable demands. There is nothing in any of them to which any rational man can take exception. And we are inclined to think the United States is disposed to insist upon them as essential to its prosperity and peace. If the new Panama Canal scheme can comply with those conditions, well and good. Success to it! But if it is going to give us a needlessly long and inconvenient route at would best be dropped at once. And if it proposes, under an American mask, to smuggle in alien control of what will be practically a part of the coast line of the United States it would best never have been

TIME FOR CONSTRUCTIVE WORK.

The Board of Aldermen is a success as a body of obstruction, and sometimes it obstructs to good purpose. It has done so in holding up the Mayor's wasteful scheme to build an unnecessary bridge to develop the vacant real estate of the Borough of Queens. It does not now seem as if that project could be pushed through before the end of the year, and the delay which must result before it can be taken up anew offers opportunity for discussion. The more the question is debated of spending \$13,000,000 for this bridge, when a tunnel answering all prospective needs in that quarter for many years to come could be built for \$2,000,000, the less defensible does it become.

The Mayor's plan was never so strong as when he first promulgated it. The Controller's objections have seriously riddled a policy which, without inquiry into details, almost everybody was inclined to look on with favor, on the general principle that improved transit is desirable in all sections of the city. But the Controller has shown that the two bridges which the Mayor favors at a cost of \$30,000,000 would seriously impair the borrowing power of the city. perhaps interfere with the completion of the rapid transit tunnel so long needed in this island, and would serve the interest of the public less than the interest of real estate speculators and railroad managers with franchises which they desire to sell, and then get the benefit of by using bridges constructed at the city's expense. 'To carry out the Mayor's plan requires the sacrifice of the convenience of the large population in South Brooklyn, which could accommodated, to the great relief of the present Bridge, by a double tunnel in practical extension of the rapid transit tunnel in this borough, costing about \$3,000,000. Thus \$5,-000,000 would open up two new lines of communication, while the Mayor wants to spend \$30,000,000 for the same purpose. Happily the Aldermen have given us a respite from that

folly and extravagance. It is now time for the Aldermen to show their constructive abilities in dealing with rapid transit problems. There is yet time if they will move quickly before the year ends and, according to the opinion of the Corporation Counsel, all pending measures before the municipal legislature die and can only be taken up as new The application of the Long Island Railroad Company for permission to undertake the construction of a tunnel putting all of Long Island in close connection with the heart of this city, has been before the Municipal Assembly for many months. Nobody comes forward to oppose it. Everybody concedes the work will be of

great public benefit and no public expense. The franchise from the State under which permission to operate is sought protects all rights The of the city. All the railroad company asks is spend its own money to get. The public bridges or tunnels will be almost entirely occupied by railroad tracks. Why should not one of the railroads, if it wants to save the public part of life. Later the physician sued his patient for the. that expense, be permitted to do so?

The city legislators might secure forgiveness for many past omissions if they would, before Saturday night, make possible the construction of this tunnel.

General Wood is going to reform the abuse of keeping prisoners in Cuba confined five months without trial. When he gets through he might be invited to come here to New-York and repeat

If there were reason to suppose that the much advertised armies which are being recruited in this country to aid the Boers, to invade Canada and in general to twist the British lion's tall are anything more than men in buckram it might be timely to observe that the first and chief thing they are doing is to break the laws of the United States.

The sale of \$750,000 worth of American cables to Glasgow shows that our bridge builders are not our only manufacturers who can compete with old established British industries on their own ground.

The military party in Russia is urging the timeliness of an Asiatic advance, now that England has her hands full in South Africa. But Russia herself has her hands full at home with financial and other troubles, and will be more likely to make a renewed appearance in the English market for a loan than in the present situation to launch an attack against the outposts of the empire. The militant Muscovite is as explosive as his own cordite shells, but there is happily a restraining force of brains behind him. He won't move on India just yet, and must fill his military chest before he can move with full efficiency anywhere.

It has been said that the present war in South Africa is a "millionaires' war." If so, the enlistment of Mr. Rothschild for active service at the was managed in so villanous a manuer as front shows that at least one of the millionaires has the courage of his convictions.

Big pay and long engagements on the witness stand and elsewhere may well cause a boom in the "expert" business. When the domestic supply is exhausted they have a fine job lot in France, left over from the Dreyfus and Zola conducted in a reasonably straightforward man- trials, upon which we might draw at reduced

> Canada invites and encourages immigration and has always done so. She wonders why with all her efforts her population tends to diminution rather than increase. The reason is that there are better chances for industry and enterprise on our side of the border. We constantly annex the flower of the Canadian youth. They come over here, where the climate is milder, the soil better, political conditions more liberal and enlightened, and where there is business of all sorts to employ their talents. This state of things will continue till isothermal lines are changed, and these the Dominion Parliament and newspapers have no appreciable control over. The census of 1891 made a poor showing during the term of the enumeration emigration had exceeded immigration by three hundred thousand. "The Toronto Globe" hopes the next

is standing still," but that the figures will have to determine.

PERSONAL.

By the death of Josephus Forbes, of New-Haven, St. Paul's Church and the Seamen's Bethel of that city receive a legacy of \$100,000, the value of the estate in which Mr. Forbes had a life interest.

The Rev. George Docker Grundy, M. A., who is supposed to be the oldest clergyman in the Church of England, entered upon the sixty-second year of his pastorate as vicar of the parish of Hey, near Oldham. He was presented to the living a year after the Queen came to the throne, and, slthough now ninety-three, is in good health. The Queen has sent to him a letter and a photograph of herself, wishing him "a continuance of your present health and vigor of mind and body," and hoping that "you may be for some years shared to those tamong whom you have for so long lived and ministered." Mr. Grandy has served under seven bishops.

"The Indianapoits News" says: "There is a ment at Fort Wayne to have General Lawton's body buried there. His father is buried in Linder wood Cemetery, at that place. The movement is natural, and in consideration for the feeling of For Wayne and Lawton's identification with the place, we should like to see it succeed. But we doubt not from the wording of the telegram of Mrs. Law-ton to 'The News,' that it is the intention that the body shall rest at Arlington. And possibly this is in accordance with a request of the General. That cemetery has become the place toward which all soldiers look with a hope that they shall at last rest there. This feeling prevails to a degree that people in civil life do not realize. It is akin almost to the feeling for Westminster Abbey among the Fundament

Says London "Truth": "Mr. Justice O'Brien, who died last week at his residence in Merrion Square, was one of the few 'strong' judges on the Irish bench. He was essentially a self-made man, and owed his success in life to his own personal quali-His strength and justice in dealing with the Phoenix Park murderers put an end to a formida chemix Park murderers put an end to a formula-ble murder conspiracy which had exercised a good deal of terrorism in official circles in Dublin. Up o the day of his death Mr. Justice O'Brien was still under special police protection. He had lit-rary tastes, and, like his life long friend, the late fir Edward Sullivan, Chancellor of Ireland, was a mach collector.

Professor James M. Munyon, a wealthy resident of Philadelphia, has completed plans for a school and home for dependent girls. Its site is thirty acres in extent and adjoins Fairmount Park, and acres in extent and adjoins Fairmount Park, and the buildings alone will cost \$2,000,000. The Munyon School will be for girls what Girard College is for boys. Native born American girls who are or-phaned or without relatives will be received at ten years of age and kept until they are eighteen, when, it is thought, they will be self-supporting or fitted for marriage.

The Earl of Rosebery has been initiated as a honorary member of the Ancient Order of Forest-

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

laims: "I think of the desolution wrought in the Philippines which this Christmas will see, after a year of the hell of war in which more slaughter, destruction, looting and desecration have been done than in all the centuries of Spain's control. This will surprise people who read in the histories that between 1603 and 1600 the Spaniards were guilty of four terrible massacres in the Philippines, it of which nearly thirty thousand natives were killed in 1763 there was a massacre of seven thousand hinese and other foreigners, and in the rebellion of 1896-'97 about fifty thousand natives were killed. The Bishop is doubtless a fine theologian, but he eally ought to brush up his history.

ANOTHER POINT OF VIEW

There ain't no country fireside wattin' for me with-out fall: out fail:
When nights is cold I'm lucky if I get inside a fail,
I've heard of the rejoicin's after harvestin' is o'et,
When the lads an' lasses froile an' defy the winds

season always brings me an uncomforta-

They tell about their turkey and their red cran-

oly chance at nectar costs a nickel, more or where to git the nickel-that's what makes me

feel so queer.
'totally despondent, 'cause I ain't no financier.
'it's lonesome, gittin' warm by simply walkin' round the block, han your teeth is on the shudder an' your wardrobe is in book.

-(Washington Star.

"a wealthy resident of Cortland (N. Y.) attempted suicide in the village of McLean, but failed to acboth medical and surgical, and saved the man's 600, claiming that the man's life, which he had saved, was worth that amount. The claim of \$10,000

In an address at Fall River Captain Sigsbee, of the Texas, told this story, illustrative of the fact that naval men make no pretence at being orators; "It is difficult for me," said Captain Sigsbee, "to be required to make a speech, and I am in the situation of the old sailor who was fond of tea and was devoted to the people who served it. But this old sailor had no society manners, and had never attended an afternoon tea. He was afraid of the ladies but in some way he was forced to attend one. He went almost in despair, and when he got back to his ship his master said:

"'Brown, did you get to the tea?"

"I did."

Davenport who has charge of a free delivery route innovation are the women. The bulk of the rura) mail handled is to and from the farmers' wives and daughters. This is not surprising. Aside from business letters, a man writes seldom, unless it is writes to his masculine friends, while the women carry on correspondence with other women whom they may not have seen for years. Hence, in the city as well as in the country the personal correspondence is largely between women. One factor in increasing the proportion of mail matter received by women is the circulation of the monthly periodicals. The magazines are most popular with women, while the greater number of the periodicals of the thirty-two page octavo type is published exclusively for readers of that sex, as the mail makes the purchases for her household. These facts account for the preponderance of mail for women at the rural postoffices."

Oklahoma enjoys the unique distinction of being the only State or Territory east of the Rocky Mountains which produced more wheat in 1895 than in 1895. The Government statistician at Washington gives Oklahoma credit for 1,218,000 acres sown with winter wheat and a crop of 16,202,000 bushels. Only twelve of the forty-six States of the Union raised more wheat than Oklahoma did this year. The prominent grain States which produced less than Oklahoma are Missouri, Illinois, Michigan, Kentucky, Tennessee, Maryland and Texas.—(Philadelphia Record.

A South Dakota paper tells of a farmer who, during the year disposed of 700 bushels of potatoes for \$245, and 800 bushels of wheat for \$418. Besides this, he received \$210 for wool and \$475 for milk. The increase from cattle and sheep came t Thus he has made a neat total of \$1.648, apart from the products used in supporting i self and his family. In commenting upon this favorable showing, "The Sloux City Tribune" calls attention to the fact that the dairy products were the most profitable of all. The farmer's cows brought him more gross income and net profit than acre, or several hundred sheep

Brown-Do you still employ Dr. Pelleteer?
Jones-Why shouldn't we? Up to the present time
he hasn't killed any of us.
Brown-And when you are all killed off you'll get
a new physician? Well, I don't know but that is
as good a plan as any.—(Boston Transcript. The French Minister of Public Instruction has

decided to purchase for the State M. Schefer's splendid collection of Eastern manuscripts. It is said to be without a rival in Europe, and is the result of fifty years' uninterrupted labor in Egypt, Syrla, Turkey, Persia and India. The manuscripts are in 700 volumes, which will be deposited in the Bibliothèque Nationale at Paris. The price to be paid for them is £4,000.

"Mrs. Bruggs, you have more faults than I ever dreamed of in any woman."
"Well, Mr. Bruggs, you have plenty of faults yourself."
"There you go again—always charges." There you go again-always changing the sub-ject when I try to talk to you! -(Chicago Record.

one "will not give color to the belief that Canada | CALL PRESENTED TO DR. PURVES. | CONDITION OF HARPER'S.

COMMITTEE FROM FIFTH AVENUE CHURCH VISITS HIM AT PRINCETON.

Princeton, N. J., Dec. 28 (Special).—A committee of fifteen, eight men and seven women, from the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, New-York, arrived here to-day and at 5 o'clock this afternoon they called on the Rev. Dr. George T. Purves and presented to him the formal call to become pastor of the church. Dr. Purves was seen to-night by The Tribune correspondent and made the following statement:

I received the formal call from the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church to-day from their committee, who called on me. I have, however, reserved my decision in the matter for the present, but have promised to let them know what I shall do about it id an early date. I shall most probably render my decision to-morrow or Saturday.

H Edwards Rowland, chairman of the committee, just before leaving Princeton said

I have nothing to say except that we presented the call to Dr. Purves, and, although he did not give us his decision, he said he would do so within

The committee took dinner at Princeton Inn tonight, but all efforts to secure their names were mitless. Mr. Rowland registered for the party signing simply "John Doe and family (15), New-York." The committee returned to New-York on the 7:50 train to-night. People here believe Dr.

H. Edward Rowland, the chairman of the committee, was seen at his home last night after the committee returned. He said the committee and a considerable number of church officials and members, who accompanied it left this city in time to reach Dr. Purves's home at 5 o'clock. He, as chairman, made the speech inviting Dr. Purves to ac-cept the call, and then presented the call engrossed on parchment and signed by all the church

cers.

r. Purves said he was impressed by the honor a call from so influential a church, and thanked committee. He promised his official answer to-day or to-morrow.

r. Rowland said he could not say what the wer will be, but confidently expected an af-

firmative reply.

"If Dr. Purves is in our pulpit Sunday the public will know he has accepted the call," he said.

William Brookfield, also a member of the committee, was seen at his home. No. 516 Madison-ave.

"There is no doubt of Dr. Purves's acceptance,"

M'CHUCE ENLISTS FENIANS.

TEN MEN JOIN THE MOVEMENT AND NAME THEIR COMMANDERS.

A diligent inquiry vesterday among the firearm and provision dealers failed to reveal any tangible evidence of the existence of the "movement" raise an army of 125.00 Fenians in the city of New-York for the proposed invasion of Canada. One broker in the Produce Exchange, whose name is suppressed out of consideration for his widowed mother, said that he knew of an agitation looking to the shipment of a drove of jackasses to Can bright spot in the Ferian movement seems to be at the Eric Basin, in Brooklyn, where last night Daniel McChuck, the well known Tammany sewer inspector of the Twelfth Ward, explained the new Fenian uprising to his friends. He enlisted ten This notice in the Klondike saloon brought out McChuck's following to a man:

> TO ALL HIBERNIANS WID SAND! HE THERE ANNI RALE MIN IN THE TWELF WARD. THIN REPORT TO D. MCHICK HEAD CINTER.

"Since the time av Shamis O'Brien we haven't had the rale thing in the way of Faneyins," said Met'huck. 'Now's our time. A tin can allus comes to the yally dog as waits, the owld sayin' is, an' now we have a great opportunity to twist the British lion's tail. I'm forced to admit that the British lion has a divil av a wry tail. Good people been a-twistin' on it for manny years more ye twist, the louder the swid boy roars, and roarin' makes his tail grow longer. Everybody's on yer teeth is on the shudder an' your ward-robs is in hock. cratic Club. Mayor Van Wyck is goin', Andy Freedman is goin', John F. Carroll is goin', all at the head av rigimints, an' our business is to or-"Do we walk?" asked McCloskey.

"No, never!" said the inspector. "The Dimmy cratic Club hez chartered all the automobiles, with rdials under the sates, an' we will all ride. Freedman has got a felly named Paul Boyton Coney Island to manage the artillery, Andy says this felly hez been shootin the chutes for five years and knows the shootin' business from op to bottom.

McCloskey then made an eloquent plea for postponement of the invasion, on the ground that he had no winter flannels, and McFinnerty grumbled about dropping his new job.

"If yiz don't injoy the ijee av bein' shot at, thin yiz kin be musicians, surgeons, special correspondents," said McChuck, as he held up a large enlistment blank and commanded his followers to come forward and show that they were ready to die in order to twist the British Hon's tail. He told them that each volunteer could choo commanding officer he wished to serve under. At the end of half an hour ten good men and true had

	Name Laniel McChuck Michael Flaherty Michael McChoskey Patrics O Houthan J McFranerty D Sullivan Algernon Byan Sylvanus Murphy	Musician Corresponder Grave digge Chaptain Typewriter Automobile t Chiropodist Harrender	ferred in service. Col. A. H. Gardiner Major McChuek it. General Agitator r. John F. Carrell to commander wanted O'Donovan Rossa- kasher Gen. R. Croker
1			ophos. Reilly, when

the list was tacked to the wall, "on the ground that he's irrelevant, immaterial an' out av plumb wid de rest av us," whereupon John Smith, who had the nerve to want to fight and nothing else, was thrown out.

"In conclusion, gintilmin," said McChuck, "I want t' congratulate yez in advance on yer magnificent cords and discretion. Ye air thrained diplomats Hangin' won't hurt the likes av ye, fur ye are all experienced rubber necks, an', besides, an' is more to the p'int, accordin' to yer choice av occupashun in the Faneyin army, if anny bloody Britisher shud capture ye, ye wud escape hangin' on the ground av bein' non-combustibles.

MORE BOUNDARY TROUBLE

BRAZILIAN WARSHIP SAILS FOR AMAPA, CLAIMED BY FRANCE Rio Janeiro, Dec. 28.-General elections will

take place next Sunday throughout Brazil. The Brazilian warship Tiradentes has sailed for Amapa, in the territory of Guyana, in dispute between France and Brazii, where serious trouble is expected to occur.

Guyana is a region of South America in its narrowest sense including the colonies of British. Dutch and French Guiana, but in a wider sense including also a large section of Venezuela and that part of Brazil which lies north of the Amazon and the Rio Negro. Guyana may be regarded as a great forest clad peninsula lying between the Orinoco end the Amazon. Much of its interior is almost unexplored.

SPARTAN MOTHERS. BY ALFRED AUSTIN.

From The Independent

om the independent.

"One more embrace! then, o'er the main,
And nobly play the soldier's part."
Thus speaks, amid the martial strain,
The Spartan mother's aching heart.
She hides her woe,
She bids him go.
And tread the path his fathers trod.
"Who fights for England, fights for God."

Helpless to help, she waits, she weeps,
And listens for the far off fray.
He scours the gorge, he scales the steeps,
Scatters the foe,—away! away!
Feigned is their flight.
Smitel again smite!
How fleet their steeds! How nimbly shod!
She kneels, she prays: "Protect him, God!"

The sister's sigh, the maiden's tear.
The wife's, the widow's stifled wall These nerve the hand, these brace the spear,
And speed them over veldt and vale.
What is to him

he rends the chain, and breaks the red!

And should it be his happy fate
Hale to return to home and rest.
She will be standing at the gate.
To fold him to her trembling breast.
Or should be fall,
By ridge or wall,
And lie neath some green southern sod,
"Who dies for Country, sleeps with God."
Ashford, Kent, England.

A STATEMENT FROM THE REORGANIZA-

TION COMMITTEE.

URGES THE CONTINUANCE OF THE BUSI-NESS UNDER STRONG, SINGLE HANDED CONTROL-SAVING IN EXPENSES

MADE BY G. B. M. HARVEY

At the instance of creditors whose claims aggregate nearly half the entire indebtedness of Harper & Bros., a committee of five men, of which Alexander E. Orr is chairman, has undertaken to prepare and submit to creditors a plan of reorganization. Preliminary to this task the committee has prepared a statement of facts in which it is set up that the total liabilities of Harper & Bros. on December 4, 1899, were \$3,083,000, diminished since the date named by the turning over of \$150,000 of honds, which leaves the total indebted-

ness \$2,993,000. The secured indebtedness is \$1,001.

000, consisting of notes, an open account and a mortgage of \$5,000, secured by bonds and real estate.

The unsecured indebtedness comprises commercial paper and open accounts. In 1896 the corporation mortgaged its property to secure \$2,000,000 5 per cent 100 year gold bonds Of this amount \$2.555,000 stands as collateral, as referred to. The remainder of the issued bonds. \$555,000, are outstanding and controlled by the committee for the purpose of reorganization. The mortgage represented by the bonds covers all property of the corporation except stock on hand, bill's receivable, supplies and cash on hand. Omitting the asset of goodwill and plates, estimated at \$500,000 value, and deducting the bond and mortgage, \$651,000 remains against the outstanding bonded indehtedness of \$2,645,000, or 26 per cent of

The estimated net available assets, not covered by mortgage, to meet unsecured claims are substantfally \$442,607. In connection with this real estate and improvements are set down at \$650,000, oodwill and plates at \$909,000, machinery, met chandise, maguscripts, drawings, and cosh and bills receivable and miscellaneous se ourities \$412.913.

The amount of the a-sets of \$442,607, as stated, is rrived at by deducting from the gross estimatel assets as here itemized, and amounting to \$2,129,413, he assets covered by first mortgage, and bond and mortgage, in the sum of \$1,000,000, and amounts due preferred creditors to the amount of \$77,896.

The net Habilities in excess of bonded indebted-

ness are placed at \$1,962,612, and comprise bills payable, general creditors, manuscripts, advertising and unexpired subscriptions, leaving net available assets equal to 2.5 per cent of net available lia-bilities, exclusive of cost of receivership and liquidation. The committee regards the foregoing estimate of

value of assets, except as a going concern, to be very excessive. All of the assets covered by the mortgage are deducted in computing the probable excess of unsecured creditors, because in the committee's judgment the property covered by the mortgage would not realize, under foreclosure sale, more than enough to satisfy the secured claims. Wherefore, the committee concludes, if the cor-

Wherefore, the committee concludes, if the corporation is not continued as a going concern, unsecured creditors would receive a very small percentage of par value of their claims. Lattle, if any relief is anticipated for creditors from indorsements of commercial paper soid by the corporation and held now as unsecured claims. Statement is made by the committee that under direction of G. B. M. Harvey, agent of the trustee and receiver now in charge of the property, operating expenses have been reduced 120,000 a month, equivalent to a saving of interest on \$5,000,000. Mr. Harvey has reported to the committee that the total loss from the business during the first eight months of the present year was nearly \$400,000 but that owing to retrenchments referred to be is certain that the corporation is now earning operating expenses. Mr. Harvey believes that with proper management, free of custody of the courts, the business can earn in 1900 about \$100,000 above operating expenses.

The committee therefore recommends to the creditors that the business be continued under strong, single handed control. The committee has assurances from the holders of practically all the bonds that with the concurrence of unsecured creditors that with the concurrence of unsecured creditors continuance may be had upon sound financial basis. The pian for the financial readjustment of the corporation's affairs is now in preparation and will be duly submitted to the creditors.

JUDGE BLANCHARD HONORED.

FELLOW JUDGES, LAWYERS AND OTHERS UNITE TO SHOW THEIR APPRECIATION OF HIM

ON HIS RETIREMENT.

A pleasant reception was accorded to Judge James A. Bianchard, of the Court of General Sessions, yesterday noon by a number of his fellow judges, lawyers, jurors, court attendants and others on the drawing to a close of his term of office, which ends with the year.

J. D. Austin, foreman of the jury, read a set of resolutions embodying sentiments of appreciation, which are to be put in album form and presented to Judge Blanchard. Assistant District Attorney Meintyre, on behalf of the District Attorney and his staff, presented the Judge with a silver ink well, and Delancey Nicoli, on behalf of a number of lawyers, presented to him a gold lined silver loving cun.

loving cup.

Among those present were Warren W. Foster,
who succeeds Judge Blanchard; Judges Cowing,
McMahon and Newburger, of General Sessions;
Justice Fursman, of the Criminal Branch of the
Supreme Court; Assistant District Attorney McIntyre and Delancey Nicoll.

NEW ENVOY FROM THE NETHERLANDS.

BARON W. A. T. GEVERS APPOINTED TO SUCCEED MR. DE WECKHERLIN AS MINISTER AT WASHINGTON.

Washington, Dec. 28 (Special).-The State Department has been informed that Baron W. A. T. Gevers has been appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Netherlands at Washington, to relieve G. De Weckherlin, who is to be transferred to Constantinople. Gevers has been until recently the diplomatic representative of Holland at Bucharest, and it is u derstood that he is now on the Atlantic, due to ar-tive in New-York in a few days. As Mr. De Weckherlin has been absent from this country, it is expected that the new Minister will present the letters of recall of his predecessor when he is formally received by the President.

The change removes from the Diplomatic Corps here its oldest member in point of service. here its oldest member in point of service. Mr. De Weckherlin would have been the dean of the corps had not France. Germany. Great Britain, italy, Mexico and Russia raised the rank of their missions to embassies. He came to this country as Minister Resident and Consul General in 180, and his rank was raised to that of Envey on June 10. 1834, his precedence therefore being nine years more than that of any other member of the Diplomatic Corps except that of the representative of Sweden and Norway, who was presented in 1835.

The prizes awarded by the Jury of Selection of

the National Academy of Design at the seventyfifth annual exhibition, which will be held this year in the galleries of the American Fine Arts Society, No. 215 West Fifty-seventh-st., and will be open to the public on Monday, are as follows: The Thomas B. Clarke prize, \$300, for the best American figure composition painted in the United States by an American citizen, without limitstion of age, Charles Schreyvogel, for the painting entitled "My Bunkle."

respectively, for the best three pictures in oli colors painted in the United States by American citizens under thirty-five years of age; Louis citizens under thirty-five years of age. Louis
Paul Dessar, A. N. A. (elect), "Landscape with
Sheep," E. Irving Couse, "Along the Quai," and
W. Granville Smith, "The Light of the House,
The Norman W. Dodge prize, \$300, for the best
picture painted in the United States by a woman,
without limitation of age, Miss Phuebe A. Bunker,
"October at Cedar Brook,"
The members of the Jury of Selection are J.
G. Brown, George B. Butler, Charles Calverley,
William M. Chase, F. S. Church, Samuel Colman,
J. R. Brevoort and Frederick E. Church, Academiclans; Howard Russell Butler and Walter Clark,
Associates.

THE NEW TRI-WEEKLY TRIBUNE From The Pittsburg Christian Advocate.

An interesting venture in journalism is the new Tri-Weekly edition put out by our old friend The New-York Tribune, to take the place of its former Semi-Weekly. The Tri-Weekly Tribune is a handsome newspaper. Its news dispatches are up to date, and we notice, in the numbers which have reached us so far, that some of its war cables from Europe are evidently received just before the hour of going to press. The Tri-Weekly is a thoroughly first-class newspaper, every issue being a veritable daily of that date, and each issue containing, in addition, the pictorial and miscellaneous features which have long distinguished The Semi-Weekly Tribune. The price, \$1.50 a year, is 50 cents less a year than the former Semi-Weekly. We cannot but regard this new enterprise on the part of The Tribune as well worthy the attention of those who want the cream of a first-class metropolitan newspaper. The Tribune has learned the art of printing half-tone pictures with excellent effect in all its different issues, this being one of the notable advances in the mechanical branch of the printer's art of these times. The Weekly Tribune holds its own as a lower priced accurage.